

R 091514Z DEC 90
FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISHU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1027
INFO RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISHU 10663

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: [PHUM](#) [PINS](#) [PREL](#) [SO](#)
SUBJECT: MORE ON MASSACRE AT ANIMAL MARKET

REF: MOGADISHU 10603

[1](#)1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

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[1](#)2. WE NOW HAVE A CLEARER PICTURE, IN PART BASED ON EYE-WITNESS REPORTS, OF THE KILLINGS THAT TOOK PLACE AT THE ANIMAL MARKET IN NORTHEAST MOGADISHU ON DECEMBER 6 (REFTEL). A MAN WHO WAS SITTING AT A COFFEE HOUSE NEAR THE MARKET DURING THE INCIDENT SAYS THAT A TOYOTA PICK-UP TRUCK CARRYING FIVE UNIFORMED MEN AND A BROWNING MACHINE-GUN PULLED UP TO THE MARKET AND BEGAN FIRING AT THE CROWD, WHICH WAS GOING ABOUT ITS NORMAL BUSINESS. SEVERAL MEN IN THE CROWD RAN TO THEIR HOMES TO GET THEIR AK-47S, AND RETURNED FIRE. THE UNIFORMED MEN FLED IN THEIR PICK-UP TRUCK.

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[1](#)3. A BYSTANDER ON A MOTOR SCOOTER FOLLOWED THE PICK-UP TRUCK UNTIL IT DISAPPEARED INTO THE GARRISON OF THE 77TH MILITARY SECTOR. BACK AT THE SCENE OF THE SHOOTING, POLICE ARRIVED AND ARRESTED THE MEN WHO HAD FIRED ON THE SOLDIERS.

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[1](#)4. AN FSN'S SISTER, WHO LIVES NEAR THE MARKET, SAYS SHE COUNTED 12 DEAD BODIES, AND THAT TWO OTHERS DIED LATER IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD AND AN ADDITIONAL THREE AT A LOCAL HOSPITAL.

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[1](#)5. RADIO MOGADISHU REPORTED ON DECEMBER 6 THAT TEN PEOPLE HAD BEEN KILLED BY "BANDITS" AT THE ANIMAL MARKET, AND THAT THREE SUSPECTS HAD BEEN ARRESTED. ON DECEMBER 7, HOWEVER, RADIO MOGADISHU REVISED ITS ESTIMATE, "AFTER LONG INVESTIGATIONS," TO TWO DEAD AND FOUR WOUNDED.

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[1](#)6. ON DECEMBER 7, A GROUP OF HAWIYE ELDERS MET WITH ARMED FORCES COMMANDER GENERAL MOHAMED SAID HERSI "MORGAN," ACCORDING TO THE SON OF ONE OF THE PARTICIPANTS. IN THIS MEETING, MORGAN IS SAID TO HAVE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE PERPETRATORS WERE GALGALA AND MAREHAN MEMBERS OF THE 77TH SECTOR GARRISON. HE PROMISED TO PREVENT ANY RECURRENCE, AND BLAMED THE SOLDIERS' BEHAVIOR ON THE TONE SET BY HIS PREDECESSOR, GENERAL ABDURAHMAN MOHAMED SAID "MASLAH." HE DID NOT SAY THAT THE GUILTY SOLDIERS HAD BEEN OR WOULD BE ARRESTED, HOWEVER. ACCORDING TO OUR CONTACT, THE ELDERS WERE IMPRESSED BY MORGAN AND WERE WILLING TO GIVE HIM A CHANCE TO IMPROVE THE ARMY'S BEHAVIOR TOWARD CIVILIANS.

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[1](#)7. COMMENT. THE ACCOUNT IN PARAS 2 THROUGH 4 IS CONSISTENT WITH LESS-DETAILED VERSIONS WE HAD RECEIVED EARLIER. IF THE REPORT OF MORGAN'S REMARKS IS AUTHENTIC, IT WILL CONFIRM HAWIYE IN THEIR BELIEF THAT GALAGAL CLANSMEN ARE COLLABORATING WITH MAREHAN TO MURDER HAWIYE. END COMMENT.

